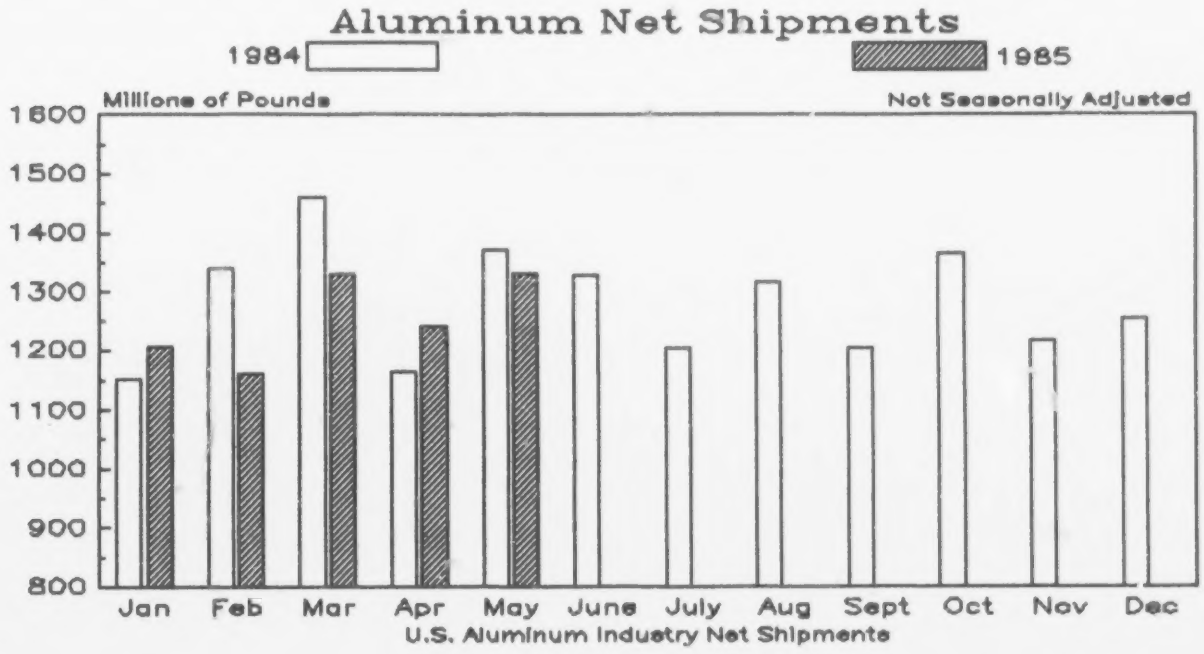
Shipments Down 3.9 Percent vs. Year Ago

Estimated shipments of 6,274 million pounds in the first five months of 1985 were down 3.9 percent from 1984's first five months. Because of the export growth, domestic shipments were off 6.1 percent.



Net Shipments

(Millions of Pounds)

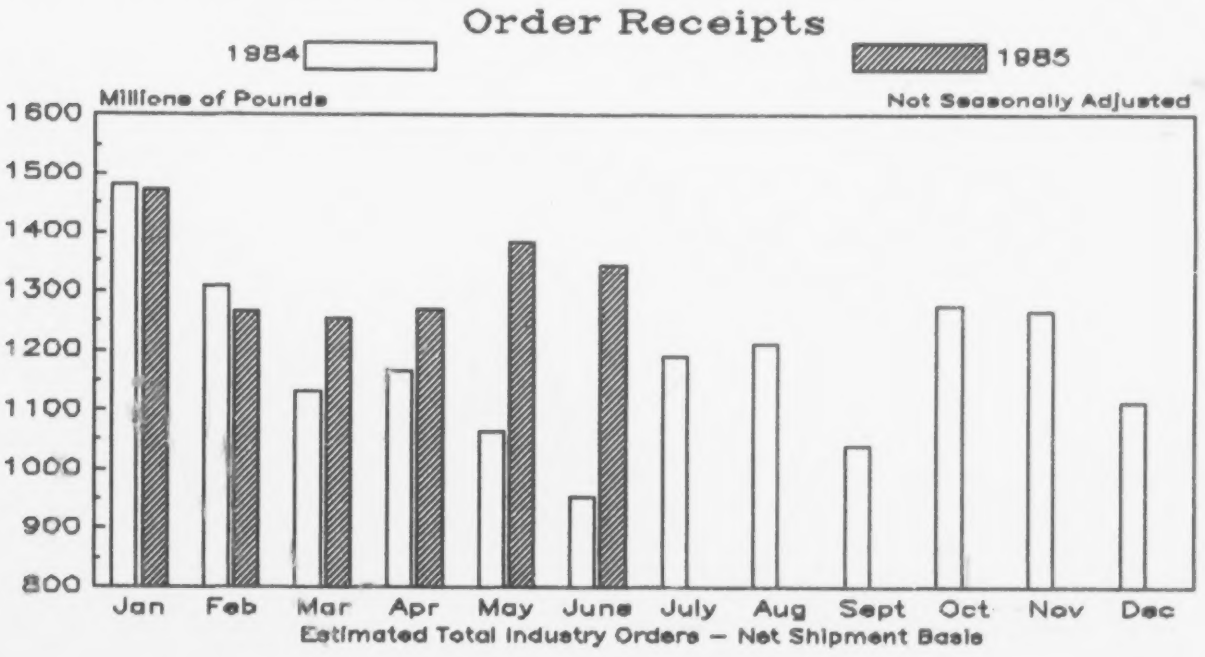
	1985 May*	1984 May	1985 5 mos.*	1984 5 mos.	% Change YTD 1985 vs. 1984
Sheet	565.0	566.0	2,605.5	2,787.2	- 6.5
Plate	23.0	24.8	112.5	105.4	+ 6.7
Foil	72.0	72.0	341.5	363.9	- 6.2
Rod, Bar & Wire	27.0	38.2	136.0	182.3	-25.4
Electrical Conductor	61.0	59.6	303.7	291.2	+ 4.3
Extruded Shapes & Tube	210.0	212.7	1,082.9	1,010.9	+ 7.1
Powder & Paste	10.0	8.4	47.9	42.1	+13.8
Forgings & Impacts	13.0	13.6	63.5	62.4	+ 1.8
Net Imports of Mill Products (Total) (a)	70.0	64.9	349.6	357.0	- 2.1
Total Mill Products	1,051.0	1,060.2	5,043.1	5,202.4	- 3.1
Ingot (b)	280.0	301.5	1,230.7	1,328.3	- 7.3
TOTAL INDUSTRY SHIPMENTS	1,331.0	1,361.7	6,273.8	6,530.7	- 3.9
Exports	(99.3)	(87.0)	(524.4)	(410.8)	+27.7
TOTAL DOMESTIC SHIPMENTS	1,231.7	1,274.7	5,749.4	6,119.9	- 6.1

*Latest two months estimated by the Aluminum Association.
Previous data-Bureau of the Census and Department of Commerce.
(a) Not included in product data above.
(b) Sufficient data not available for reliable estimate. Implicit in this item is a 10 to 25% variation.

Commencing January 1985, Census reports have changed product categories as follows: Rod, Bar and Wire now includes Extruded Rod and Bar; the former Extruded Products now only consists of Shapes and Pipe and Tube; and Welded Tube has been dropped.

First Six Months Orders 12.4 Percent Above vs. 1st Half 1984

Estimated net new order receipts for the first six months of 1985 of 7,982 million pounds were up 12.4 percent over the 7,102 million pounds for the first half of 1984. June 1985 orders in fact were a healthy 40.6 percent above June 1984.



Order Receipts

(Millions of Pounds)

	1985 June*	1984 June	1985 6 months*	1984 6 months	% Change YTD 1985 vs. 1984
Can Stock(a)	371.3	209.5	1,763.8	1,635.6	+ 7.8
Sheet & Plate, Other	333.2	172.1	2,071.3	1,728.4	+19.8
Foil	57.6	65.4	376.3	404.5	- 7.0
Rod, Bar & Wire	12.1	18.1	84.4	143.1	-41.0
Electrical Conductor	54.2	63.1	367.9	401.1	- 8.3
Extruded Products	196.8	170.0	1,281.4	1,131.9	+13.2
Powder & Paste	13.7	5.8	63.8	58.4	+ 9.2
Forgings & Impacts	7.0	16.9	58.3	74.2	-21.4
Domestic Mill Products	1,045.9	720.9	6,067.2	5,577.2	+ 8.8
Ingot(Total)	191.2	162.1	1,394.8	1,107.9	+25.9
TOTAL DOMESTIC	1,237.1	883.0	7,462.0	6,685.1	+11.6
Exports	102.8	69.8	519.5	417.2	+24.5
TOTAL ALL PRODUCTS	1,339.9	952.8	7,981.5	7,102.3	+12.4

Source: The Association estimates total industry orders, based on weekly reports by members of new orders (less cancellations) received. The Association expands these data to total industry utilizing an expansion ratio that attempts to reflect the relationship of reporters to the total industry. Weekly data are available upon request.
(a) Import orders included in Sheet and Plate, Other.
*Latest month.

Inventories Declined in May 1985 By 33 Million Pounds

Producer inventories decreased an estimated 33 million pounds in May 1985 from April 1985. Due to changes in the Bureau of Census format of reports in January 1985, inventory detail is now shown by product type.

Month-End Aluminum Inventories
By Type of Producer
Figures in Millions of Pounds

Month	Total*	Integrated	Smelters	Non-Integrated
Dec 80	5,076	4,018	261	797
Dec 81	6,607	5,542	266	798
Dec 82	6,180	5,224	216	740
Dec 83	4,994	3,979	163	853
Jun 84	5,618	4,474	240	904
Jul 84	5,775	4,622	234	919
Aug 84	5,794	4,640	225	930
Sep 84	5,881	4,710	226	945
Oct 84	5,889	4,722	225	942
Nov 84	5,920	4,790	205	925
Dec 84	5,849	4,691	229	929

Month	Total*	Ingot	Scrap	All Other
Jan 85	5,759	2,448	699r	2,612
Feb 85	5,678	2,575	666	2,437
Mar 85	5,657r	2,438r	655r	2,564r
Apr 85	5,618r	2,494r	667r	2,457r
May 85	5,585	2,485	698	2,402

*Latest two months estimated by Aluminum Association. Previous data-Bureau of the Census. Inventories include ingot, mill products and scrap.
Early estimates are available approximately the 5th working day each month; however, there is a charge for this special service. Contact the Aluminum Association Department of Economics and Statistics for details.

Imports and Exports

(Millions of Pounds)

		1985 May	1984 May	1985 5 mos.	1984 5 mos.	% Change 1985 vs. 1984
Imports	Mill Products	91.8	85.5	441.4	437.1	+ 1.0
	Ingot	160.2	216.4	759.4	912.1	-16.7
	Total	252.0	301.9	1,200.8	1,349.2	-11.0
	Scrap (+ dross)	21.6	27.3	103.6	118.4	-12.5
	Grand Total	273.6	329.2	1,304.4	1,467.6	-11.1
Exports	Mill Products	33.8	40.2	189.9	219.8	-13.6
	Ingot	65.5	46.8	334.4	191.0	+75.1
	Total	99.3	87.0	524.3	410.8	+27.6
	Scrap	68.1	36.2	358.9	188.2	+90.7
	Grand Total	167.4	123.2	883.2	599.0	+47.5
Net Imports		106.2	206.0	421.2	868.6	

Source: Department of Commerce, Industry Trade Administration and Bureau of the Census. Excludes backed foil.